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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

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Population

- Klaipeda has between 60,000 and 100,000 inhabitants. The population has increased considerably since 1945. This increase is attributable to the enlarging of various commercial and industrial enterprises since the war's end. These enlarged enterprises include the following: Wood-fibre Paper Combine, Trinciai Textile Mill, ship drydocks, and a fish processing and canning plant.
- The ethnic group in the majority (about 45 percent) in Klaipeda is Russian. Prior to the war, this group was practically nonexistent. It replaced, during and after the war, the substantial German ethnic group previously in Klaipeda.
- Ethnic groups other than Russian in Klaipeda aggregate 55 percent of the population. The approximate breakdown of these ethnic groups, in terms of percentages of the entire population, is as follows:
 

Lithuanian	40%
Ukrainian	10%
Other Soviets (Georgians, Uzbeks, etc.)	5%
- Each of the nationalities has fundamental differences in its social, cultural, and religious customs. These differences are not too greatly pronounced, however. Generally, there is no "tension" between any of the ethnic groups, although there is a lack of affection by the Lithuanian group for the Soviet groups and vice versa.
- There are no unassimilated foreigners living in Klaipeda.

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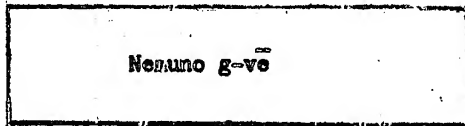
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Appearance of City

6. Klaipeda's streets are generally of "average" width, i.e., about 20 feet. Almost all of the streets are paved with cobblestones. Street lights exist only on the larger, busier thoroughfares. All of these lights are electric. The name of each street appears on a sign post attached to a corner building. These signs, made of wood or metal, are three or four feet long and about five to seven inches in height. The name, in Lithuanian, of the street is printed in black letters on a white background. A sketch of the general appearance of these signs follows:

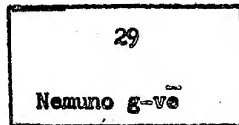


Note: "g-vė" is abbreviation of Lithuanian word gatvė for "street."

A circular wooden or metal disc, as illustrated below, is attached to the fronts of about 70 percent of the buildings. These discs, about 10 to 12 inches in diameter, bear the number of the building and the name of the street in black lettering on a white background.



The remaining 30 percent of the buildings are marked with rectangular markers, wooden or metal, about eight to ten inches wide and five to eight inches high. These markers also bear black numbers and street names on a white background.



As one proceeds along a street from the lower numbers to the higher numbers, the odd numbers will be on the left and the even numbers on the right side.

7. The apartment buildings in the city are constructed of red brick with a cement facing on the outside. These outside walls are generally painted a dull buff, or, in a few cases, a dark red. The great majority of the apartment buildings are three stories in height. The larger buildings, which are located in the center of the city, contain 20 to 40 apartments. Other buildings, located in other sections of the city, contain fewer apartments. The roofs of the apartment buildings are of a metal or a slate covering. The colors of these roofs, although easily identifiable when new as dull grey, buff, red, green, etc., are now weatherworn to the extent that they are a very dark shade without any particular color's being discernable. Office and governmental buildings have the same appearance. In general, as the above-described apartment structures. There are extremely few private homes, which ordinarily belong to high Communist Party or Government officials.
8. With respect to war-time bomb damage, the city, as a whole, was approximately forty percent destroyed. Removal of rubble and repair of buildings not completely destroyed is still going on. While all the streets and sidewalks have been long since cleared of all rubble, many destroyed buildings still have not been cleared away. To date, post-war reconstruction has resulted in only one new building. In spite of the fact that many damaged buildings have been repaired completely, only about one percent of the

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total damage has been reconstructed. The Klaipeda dock area suffered the heaviest bomb damage; it was about 90 percent destroyed. Although many repairs have been made, about 70 percent of the rubble still remains. Temporary warehouses with wooden frames and walls and tarpaper-covered roofs have been built. Seven to nine cranes have been installed to replace the destroyed ones. A bomb shelter with a capacity of 3,000 people has also been built.

9. The names of and descriptions of activities on some of Klaipeda's main streets follow:
  - a. Nemunas Street. This street, commonly referred to by Klaipeda's residents as Malunas Street, runs roughly north and south along the waterfront. As a primary industrial and shipyard area, Nemunas Street contains a firm which processes wood pulp for paper and extracts wood alcohol; a fish receiving and processing agency; a turpentine plant and lumber yard; a petroleum storage area containing diesel fuel; a lumber mill; a maritime school; and a vessel-berthing area for ships from 20 to 220 tons. The few residences on Nemunas street are buildings containing six or seven apartments.
  - b. Liepu Street. Liepu Street is primarily a commercial street containing office buildings, many small shops interlaced among bombed-out and standing apartment buildings, etc. In addition, the building housing the City Council is on Liepu Street, as are a law school and a fairly large store selling military insignia, medals, and other such paraphernalia.
  - c. Vilnius Street. This street is almost completely residential.
  - d. Martytes Kilnikaites Street. Martytes Kilnikaites Street is also a residential street. In addition to houses, a Naval Reserve training center and a fire house are on this street.
10. The Sea Control Point for Klaipeda is located on the northern tip of the peninsula Kurische Nehrung, off-shore from Klaipeda (coordinates 55-44N, 21-06E AMS M651 (GSGS 4416), scale 1:100,000, Title "Klaipeda," sheet G-15).
11. The railroad station is located at the northeast outskirts of the city. It is of rectangular shape, 115 to 130 feet long and 64 to 80 feet wide. Although the building is two stories high, no stairway is visible and it is not known what, if anything, is located on the second story. The exterior walls of the building are of brick faced with cement painted a dull yellow. The roof is red. The entire railroad is fenced and is patrolled by railroad police.
12. In Lenin Square, near the Klaipeda railroad station, there is a monument about thirty feet high. This monument, which has a 50 caliber machine-gun mounted on its summit, rests over the graves of 500 Soviet soldiers who died in the fight with the Germans for Klaipeda. This monument was erected in 1946 or 1947.

Housing

13. The following three hotels are known to be in Klaipeda.
  - a. Pajuris Viesbutis (Seaside Hotel) - this hotel has rates of about ten rubles a day. Most of the hotel's guests are visiting high officials, high officials waiting for permanent quarters, sportsmen, etc.
  - b. Viktorija Viesbutis (Victoria Hotel) - no information other than the name is known about this establishment.
  - c. Baltika Viesbutis (Baltic Hotel) - Most of the inhabitants of this hotel are MGB personnel awaiting assignment of permanent quarters.

The addresses of the above-named hotels are not known.

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14. There are no tearooms in Klaipeda.

15. All quarters for the people in Klaipeda, with the exception of those for high officials, are the same, basically. The high officials have private homes or the best apartments. All other people dwell in apartments of two or three rooms. The appearance, size, furnishings, etc., of these apartments are contingent, to a great degree, on the initiative of the individual in obtaining quarters. Most of the apartments are unfurnished, but they do contain a stove. Refrigerators or ice boxes are not used.

#### Medical Facilities

16. There are three clinics and two hospitals in Klaipeda. While the professional standard of these medical facilities is fairly high, it is necessary to wait in long queues for treatment at the clinics. An emergency ambulance service is also available. There are no restrictions placed on the use of these medical facilities.

#### Police Protection

17. With reference to Klaipeda's police militia, walking patrols of one or two men, armed with pistols, are stationed in the busier, more important areas of the city, e.g., the center of the city, Nemunas Street, etc. The police force is composed of 50 percent Lithuanian personnel and 50 percent Russian personnel. The members of the police force are not permitted to retain their weapons when not on duty.

#### Local Transportation

18. There are no subways or streetcars in Klaipeda. There is a bus transportation system which has three routes. Each route begins and ends at the railroad station. One route runs twice daily to the northern part of the city. The second operates to the west twice each hour. The third route runs about every hour from the railroad station southward on Nemunas Street along the waterfront, and back. Each bus has a driver and a conductor. When boarding a bus, the passenger must announce his destination to the conductor. The fare is then paid on the basis of distance to be travelled from the boarding point. The rates are 30 kopeks from station to station (the stations are about one kilometer apart) with a maximum fare of one ruble and 20 kopeks. There are about 10 to 15 buses in the transportation system, about 60 percent of which are green. The passenger capacity of the green buses is 16 or 17 people. The other buses are yellow and have a maximum seating capacity of 30 to 55 people.

19. There are about seven taxicabs in Klaipeda available from about 7:00 a.m. to about 1:00 p.m. The fare is two rubles a kilometer within the city limits. If, however, the destination is outside the city limits, the fare is four rubles a kilometer. The additional two rubles a kilometer in this latter case are, in theory, payment for the driver's return to place of origin. Although anyone may use the taxicabs, the average person does not because of the cost, unless he is intoxicated or in an extremely great hurry because of some emergency. The cabs are all a dark color and are identified by a checkered stripe around the body, just below the window level. The cabs are all stationed at an intersection in the center of Klaipeda known as Radijo Mazgas (Radio Intersection).

#### Electric Power

20. The present source of Klaipeda's electric power is not known to sources. However, an electric generating plant is being constructed in the region where the Celluozes paper firm is located (on Nemunas Street). A chimney has already been built and miscellaneous machinery has been installed.

21. Alternating current is used in Klaipeda. Voltage is 220; wattage is about 120. The only restrictions on the amount of electric current available to private consumers are the following:

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- a. No electric stoves or heating units of any kind are permitted. Use of such units is punishable by a fine.
  - b. Bulbs of a maximum wattage of 25 are permissible for each room of a home.
22. Lights become dimmer at nightfall. After midnight, when less electricity is in use, the lights brighten. The average light bulb lasts about two months before it burns out.

Education

23. The names, addresses (when known), and brief descriptions of Klaipeda's institutions of higher learning follow:
- a. Teachers' Institute. This school trains its students, mostly Lithuanians, with a sprinkling of Russians, as gymnasium teachers. Prerequisite for entrance is satisfactory completion of gymnasium. The Institute is coeducational and its course of study is four and one-half years. Lithuanian is the language used in instruction. The following courses are taught: Lithuanian language and literature, Russian language and literature, English language and literature, French language and literature, German language and literature, history, mathematics, botany, zoology, geography, and one or two other subjects.
  - b. Teachers' Seminary. Most of the students in this school are Lithuanians, male or female, being trained as teachers for primary schools. In order to qualify for admittance, the prospective student must have completed four classes of gymnasium. The course is taught in Lithuanian and takes four years for completion.
  - c. Lithuanian Gymnasium. Most of the students are Lithuanian and Lithuanian is the language used in the school.
  - d. Russian Gymnasium. All the students are Russian and Russian is the language used in the school.
  - e. Sailors' School. Located at 9 Marytes Milnikaites Street, this school trains maritime personnel for large ocean-going vessels and personnel for the Naval Reserve. Completion of four classes of gymnasium is an entrance requirement. The length of the course is four and one-half years, during which time an examination is held to eliminate all but the better members of the class. There are three divisions in the school: captain, mechanic, and ship builder. Seventy-five percent to eighty percent of the students are Russian and the school's classes are conducted in Russian.
  - f. Agricultural Technical School. As most of the students are Lithuanian farmers, the classes are conducted in Lithuanian. Elimination examinations are held and the course lasts four and one-half years. Completion of four classes of gymnasium is an entrance requirement.
  - g. Maritime School. Located at 88 Nemunas Street, this institution trains maritime personnel for non-oceanbound ships, e.g., fishing trawlers, coastal freighters, etc. Completion of four classes of gymnasium is an entrance requirement. Eighty percent of the students are Russian and Russian is the language used in the school. Most of the graduating students are given papers as Mechanics III Class, Captains of small vessels, and Mates (all classes) of small vessels.
  - h. Nurses' School. Completion of four classes of gymnasium is an entrance requirement, and the course is of three or four years' duration. The students are all girls and Lithuanian is the language used.
  - i. F.Z.O. (Fabrichno-Zavodskoye Obucheniye). This coeducational school is a Russian vocational institution.

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24. Concerning the question of civil defense, it is known that three groups of young people, aggregating about 1,000, are being trained in use of weapons, gas masks, and in air raid procedure. The general populace has not received any instructions in air raid precautionary measures. Many school girls are receiving first aid and gas mask instructions. When a young man goes (at the age of 18) to register with the military authorities to obtain the required military status document, he is required to attend classes one evening a week from 6:00 to 9:30. These classes are for teaching various civil defense subjects, e.g., gas mask use, extinguishing of fires, first aid, protection against bomb explosions, etc.

Marketing and Blackmarketing

25. No consumers' goods are rationed locally, but the following are in short supply:
- a. electric light bulbs (supply is, however, growing steadily)
  - b. cloth (poor quality cloth is plentiful)
  - c. sugar
  - d. flour
  - e. bread (sufficient supply for entire populace, but necessary to queue for it)
  - f. shoes (very expensive shoes are available)
  - g. meat fat
  - h. fresh meat (smoked sausage meats are plentiful)
26. All consumers' goods in short supply are black-marketed. The black-marketeers are known as "spekulantai" (meaning "speculators") and as "juodininkai" (meaning "blacklers"). The people engaged in black-market activities include full-time professionals (a small percentage) and part-time entrepreneurs who are trying to sell a personal possession, something stolen from place of employment, etc.
27. Anyone apprehended dealing in the black market is arrested and all goods are confiscated. Prison sentences up to seven years are common. However, the professional, full-time black-marketeer is generally dealt with more severely than the part-time "amateur" would be.
28. Turgaus Aikete (meaning Market Square) is the area in Klaipeda where farmers gather to sell their produce, i.e., vegetables, fruits, meats, milk, butter, cheese, etc. They are not permitted to be there on days other than the officially designated "market days" - Wednesdays and Saturdays. On these days, the official market hours are from the previous evening until 5:00 p.m. of the market day concerned. At this hour (5:00 p.m.) a police officer blows a whistle, signifying that all sellers should depart immediately. Each vendor is required to pay a rental for the space he occupies. This rental is scaled according to the amount of space occupied. Thus, an individual who carried his produce to market on his back may pay only five rubles for the day, whereas a farmer with a horse and wagon may pay twenty-five rubles or more. There are separate areas in the Market Square for various consumers' items, such as food, clothing, housewares, etc. The sale of meat requires a license as well as the necessity for inspection thereof and application thereon of the inspector's stamp of inspection and approval.

Labor Conditions and Standard of Living

29. Local enterprises are free to recruit workers. However, a maximum ceiling on the number of employees an enterprise may have is established. The enterprise may have fewer employees than allowed in the quota, but never more. This quota can be increased or decreased by the Ministry of Labor. The individual worker is obliged to obtain official release from one job before taking a new one.
30. There is no local regulation of wages and working conditions in Klaipeda. The labor regulations in force there do not differ materially from those in other cities.

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31. For the purpose of facilitating comparison of wages with the cost of living in order to determine the standard of living, the sources have arbitrarily divided the population of Klaipeda into several groups. Each group has been assigned an adjectival rating of very good, good, fair, poor, or very poor to denote the living standard possible for each group.

<u>Population Group</u>	<u>Standard of Living</u>
Average man (unskilled laborer, "white collar" worker, etc.)	Very Poor
Skilled worker (machinists, carpenters, mechanics, etc.)	Fair
Sailors, fishermen, and other shipping industry employees	Fair
Government employees (MGB, LVD, etc.)	Good
High governmental and industrial and commercial officials	Very Good
Teachers, lawyers, physicians, and similar professional people	Fair to Good

Newspapers and Radios

32. The following newspapers are known to be published in Klaipeda:
- Pionierius ( Pioneer ) - Lithuanian language.
  - Raudonas Sviesmetis ( Red Lighthouse ) - Russian language
  - Sovetskaya Klaipeda ( Soviet Klaipeda ) - Russian language
  - Komjaunimo Tiesa ( Komosol Youth Truth ) - Lithuanian language
33. Twenty-five to forty percent of the families in Klaipeda possess radios. Most of these radios have long and medium wave bands. Some bars and restaurants have radios, which are tuned in, primarily, to musical programs. It is also possible for a person to purchase, for 35 rubles, a loudspeaker system which is connected to a central broadcast relaying point. Only one station may be received on these loudspeaker systems, always a station in the non-Baltic Soviet Union. Monthly payments are also required for use of the loudspeakers. Loudspeakers are also located in virtually every public place, e.g., squares, factories, restaurants, bars, etc. These loudspeakers are said to be on "all the time."
34. Seventy-five percent of those possessing radios in Klaipeda can hear foreign broadcasts. Jamming of foreign broadcasts, especially the Voice of America, is very evident. There is no regulation or law that prohibits listening to foreign broadcasts. If, however, the authorities learn that someone has listened to a Voice of America broadcast, he is admonished for doing so. A second "offense" could result in a prison sentence. 1/
35. The general attitude of the public toward the reporting which it reads in official publications or hears over the radio is one favorable to the West. In general, very little of the Soviet propaganda is believed by the people. As a matter of fact, many people make fun of the obvious misstatements and "coloring" in this propaganda.

Entertainment

36. The known Klaipeda movie houses and theaters are as follows:

a. Movie Houses

<u>Name</u>	<u>Price of Admission</u>	<u>Frequency of Performance</u>
Tevyne (Fatherland)	2 to 5 rubles	6:30, 8:30, and 10:30 p.m.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Price of Admission</u>	<u>Frequency of Performance</u>
Sostine (Capital)	2 to 5 rubles	5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p.m.
Sailors' Club	3 or 4 rubles	Evenings
Officers' Club	5 to 10 rubles	Evenings

Note: Occasionally the Officers' Club movie house has stage performers. On those occasions the prices of admission are slightly higher.

- b. Theaters. The Klaipeda Drama Theater is the only legitimate theater in the city. Performances are at 8:00 p.m. daily, and admission ranges from 5 to 25 rubles.

#### Church

37. The Roman Catholic and Russian Orthodox denominations are actively supported by the city's inhabitants. There are no seminaries or monasteries in the area. There is no friction between the devotees of the different religions in Klaipeda.

#### Telephone, Telegraph, Postal Systems

38. The "common man" does not have a telephone in his residence, nor does he have occasion to use one, except on rare occasions. Only high government and business officials have phones in their homes. Public telephones may be found in Klaipeda in the railroad station and the department store Univermark (Universal Store). The local rate is 15 kopeks a minute.
39. Telegrams may be sent freely; no identification is required of the sender and there are no other controls. There are two types of telegrams: common and "lightning" (express). The rates for the common telegrams are one and one-half rubles a word. The procedure for sending telegrams is simple; one goes to the post office, completes a blank message form, and pays for the transmission and delivery of the message in accordance with established rates.
40. The following information regarding the postal system is available. There are 10 to 15 mailboxes scattered throughout Klaipeda. Letters may be mailed to any point in the Soviet Union. Censorship to points not outside the Soviet Union is very rare. Letters to foreign areas must be delivered unsealed to the Post Office. Letters to these foreign areas may be censored, although sources do not know by experience. Mail within the city is delivered within a day. Letters to other cities take three days to a week for delivery, contingent upon the proximity of such cities to Klaipeda. There is one central Post Office in the city and some branch offices. General Delivery service and Registry service are available. There is, however, no Special Delivery service. There is one daily mail delivery to residences.

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1. Comment: Even though listening is not against the law, such a sentence is possible considering the facility with which Soviet authorities can find pretexts for arrest.

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